



The Seattle Garden Club

Member of The Garden Club of America

www.seattlegardenclub.org

January 2012



HORT MEETING

January 9

Provisional

Marianne Kitchell

Lady Bird Johnson's Legacy

Wildflowers and 'Beautification'

UWBG-CUH

9:30am Coffee, 10am Meeting

AT A GLANCE

events of note coming soon

- 1/9 PROVISIONALS @ CUH at 9:00am
HORT Meeting @ UWBG/CUH,
9:30am per info above
- 1/11 MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE
10:00am to Noon
- 1/12 BOARD MEETING - The Sunset Club
10:00am
- 1/18 MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE
10:00am to Noon
- 1/19 COMMUNITY PROJECTS
9:00am-10am @ CUH
ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
9:30am per info to right
GARDEN HISTORY & DESIGN
@ CUH following Business Meeting
- 1/23 PHOTOGRAPHY MEETING
@ Noreen Frink's, 10:00am to Noon
- 1/25 MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
10:00am to Noon

January General Meeting

Thursday, January 19, 2012

Annual Business Meeting

WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO

UWBG/CUH - 9:30 Social, 10:00 Meeting

Members Only

Join the discussion on current
issues within our Club.

We will be updated on the Treasury,
our recent Auction and Community
Projects policies implemented after
last year's business meeting.

Discussion groups will address
fundraising, the Judging Program and
community exposure.

Come with questions about any
Club-related issues.

Please reply, YES or NO

by Sunday, January 15

to Jane Harder

janeharder@comcast.net (206) 371-7675

*Plus, members' "favorite seasonal"
photo display*



FROM THE PRESIDENT

HAPPY NEW YEAR! Wow! What happened to 2011?? How did it pass so quickly?

I can tell you, with the busy lives we lead, the days and months pass like the blink of an eye. For me, the holiday season and approaching New Year are a time for reflection as well as resolution.

Looking back to our Holiday Luncheon and Auction, I am extremely proud of our Ways and Means Committee under Sheila Noonan's capable leadership. We had a record number of members and guests attending and enjoying the beautiful Sunset Club in all its Christmas glory. Sheila will report on the proceeds in her article. Bravo!!! It was a wonderful way to get into the Christmas Spirit!

The East Montlake Park has been put to its winter rest with a covering of bark chips to insulate the new plantings and reduce those pesky weeds. I strolled through the park a couple of weeks ago with my dog and couldn't get over the improvements, and the tranquil beauty of our little spot in winter. It's a great place to reflect and I look forward to returning on those cold, crisp days ahead.

January's General and Hort Meetings are on the horizon. On the 9th we will be treated to Marianne Kitchell's presentation on Lady Bird Johnson and her Wildflower and Beautification Legacy. Our Annual Business Meeting on the 19th (for members only) "Why We Do What We Do" encourages everyone's participation. Laurie Ahern and the Policy and Planning Committee have put together a stimulating opportunity to learn some of the mechanics of our organization and make effective changes. Please come ready to express ideas and ask questions. See you there!

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the Pamela Green Horticulture Lecture on Thursday, March 1st. British best selling author Andrea Wulf will present an enlightening and entertaining evening of gardening history in our country. Her book, *The Founding Gardeners*, is a good read and I encourage you to treat yourself to a copy. This is a community event and I encourage you to invite as many guests as you can...husbands, students, neighbors, friends. All are welcome!

Now what about those New Year's resolutions? I have one...to treat every day as a gift and be grateful for all the wonders of nature that surround us...even the rain!!!

2012, HERE WE COME!!!

Laurie Riley, President

ATTENTION!

Requiring your immediate action!

RSVP

- Jane Harder for the January 19 Business Meeting, (206) 371-7675
janeharder@comcast.net
- Turn in your "favorite seasonal" photo to Jane Harder at Hort meeting on 1/9

YEARBOOK CORRECTIONS & CHANGES

- **Betty Bottler:** 1630 43rd Avenue E. #1217, Seattle 98112, phone (206) 720-2142
- **Mrs. E. B. Clark:** 900 University St., 328 Supported Living, Seattle, WA 98101
- **Marianne Kitchell:** kitchell3@gmail.com
- **Catherine Parker:** 821 McGilvra Blvd. E., Seattle 98112
- **Barbara Peterson:** 1515 Parkside Dr. E., Seattle 98112
- **Susan Pollock:** Susanspollock@gmail.com
- **Victoria Reed:** vreed616@gmail.com
- **Jane Yerkes:** 1620 43rd Ave E. #11C, Seattle, 98112

Also, please note the following changes in upcoming programs/speakers:

March 15 will be Vanessa Nagel, Landscape Designer

May 17 will be Eric Becker, Conservationist

CONSERVATION REPORT

Sparkly, partying-December lights the way to January advocacy!

- Attend a Legislative Workshop at U.W. Kane Hall #120 on Saturday, January 7, 9:30am-2:30pm to learn about 2012 Environmental Priorities.
- Olympia Environmental Lobby Day 2012 is Wednesday, January 25, 8:30am-4pm.
- Registration information is at www.pugetsound.org. Click on "Events" to learn about agenda and timing, buses and box lunches.
- Our Conservation Committee will cheerfully carpool for this legislative day in Olympia. Call or email Hotie Hard at 206-524-1346 or hotieh@aol.com



Hotie Hard, Conservation Chair



Think Twice About Natural Gas - A GCA Update

As we begin the year 2012, many of us have resolved to be **greener** in both our lives and our gardening habits. That may mean anything from using fewer insecticides to composting to reducing our reliance on fossil fuels. Natural gas, at first glance, appears to be a healthy alternative. There is an abundance of it and retrieving it will provide needed jobs. However, according to articles in GC Acorn, that may not be the case.

A June 2011 article explains that "fracking," the hydraulic method for extracting natural gas, has indeed been improved so that it is less costly and time-consuming. Yet it takes an enormous amount of water to 'frack' - so much water in fact that it is difficult to store the wastewater and some spills over into drinking water, thereby contaminating it. A 2005 Act that protects drinking water from such contamination exempts fracking water. In 2009 a new congressional bill was proposed to include such protection. A two-year study of the issue was implemented and results should soon be forthcoming. Look for an update in the GC Acorn. **Carey Davis**

FROST

Therefore, lest this inclement friend should maim

Your valued plants, plunge pots within a frame
Sunk deep in sand or ashes to the rim,
Warm nursery when nights and days are grim;
But in the long brown borders where the frost
May hold its mischievous and midnight play
And all your winnings of the months be lost
In one short gamble when the dice are tossed
Finally and forever in few hours,
-The chance your skill, the stake your flowers,-
Throw bracken, never sodden, light and tough
In almost weightless armfuls down, to rest
Buoyant on tender and frost-fearing plants;
Or set the wattled hurdle in a square
Protective, where the north-east wind is gruff,
As sensitive natures seek for comfort lest
Th'assault of life be more than they can bear,
And find an end, not in timidity
But death's decisive certainty.

Vita Sackville-West

GARDENER'S CORNER



Thoughts for January:

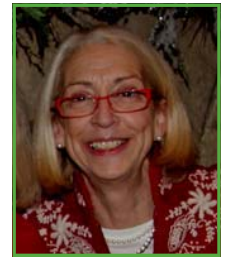
- Gather branches of quince, forsythia and flowering cherries; bring inside to force early bloom
- Propagate leggy indoor plants by air-layering
- Keep bird feeders filled...food is scarce now
- Browse catalogs, visit nurseries with a friend and look for bareroot fruit trees, raspberries, grapes, and other fruit. Find disease-resistant varieties and note if your choice is self-pollinating. Simplify pruning and harvesting by choosing dwarfing rootstocks
- Deny any thoughts of guilt when disposing of holiday poinsettias

Janet Footh



SGC Holiday Luncheon and Auction

We had fun and made money for Community Projects! What more can we ask for? The final accounting is not done, but the estimate is that we all made approximately \$25,000.00 for the SGC Community Projects fund.



The Sunset Club sparkled with decorations, providing the perfect setting for our auction and luncheon party. The donations you provided for the auction gave bidders a grand array of items and they responded with spirited bidding.

Thank you to all our members who put together experiences for our Auction; Laurie Ahern, Barbara Anderson, B.J. Anderson, Mary Jane Anderson, Sue Ashmun, Deborah Cheadle, Suzette de Turenne, Carol Eland, Noreen Frink, Pam Green, Barbara Hamacheck, Alex Morse, Fay Page, Catherine Parker, Nancy Parker, Patsy Pattison, Susan Potts, Charlee Reed, Vicki Reed, Laurie Riley, Catherine Roach, Shelley Rolfe, Jo Anne Rosen, Barbie Snapp, Burnley Snyder, Carlyn Steiner, Hope Stroble, Suzy Titcomb, Susan Torrance, Mary Turner, Iris Wagner, Jane Yerkes and the entire SGC Board. What a wonderful group of outings you all gave to the Auction which many of us will be enjoying in 2012.

A special thank you to all the Angels who donated to date to the Auction: Marilee Ahalt, Alison Andrews, Trudy Baldwin, Barbara Bender, Ann Bohart, Mary Jane Clark, Christine Davis, Diggs Docter, Lucile Flanagan, Barbara Feasey, Jeannine Foster, Stephanie Fowler, Hotie Hard, Anne Hofius, Gretchen Hull, Ann Hunter, Katherine Merrifield, Alex Morse, Eleanor Nolan, Betty Paul, Barbara Pringle, Patsy Sangster, Mary Smith, Burnley Snyder, Debbi Wilson, Peggy Wilton, Jenny Wyatt, Ann Wyckoff and Glenn Youell.

Charlee Reed and B.J. Anderson did a marvelous job of arranging a delicious and beautiful luncheon for us, not to mention keeping track of all the attendees!

The Holiday Luncheon and Auction is truly a group effort and every contribution counts in making it the wonderful experience and success. The Way & Means Committee thanks everyone who helped us achieve this success. Without you we could not have done it. **THANK YOU!** *Sheila Noonan, Chair*

Members pitch in to help raise important Community Project funds. . .



Patsy Pattison, Debby Smith, Laurie Riley, Barbie Snapp & Charlee Reed help make wreaths



Ways & Means are joined by other volunteers to help the Auction process run smoothly



Burnley Snyder & Laurie Riley ready to auction table balloons



Vicki Neumann & Christine Davis prepare for their volunteer duties



Barbee Crutcher, Nancy Parker, BJ Anderson, Carol Eland & Carey Davis prepare to welcome guests



Barbara Anderson & Catherine Roach at the ready



Laurie Ahern, Sis Woodside and her sister, Florence Covey, enjoy the festivities



Carol Henderson & Nancy Bain contribute to the decor



Members enjoy holiday cheer and the lovely setting while supporting SGC fundraising



Sue Ashmun & Suzy Titcomb are pleased with Auction results



Deborah Cheadle heads home with her Auction treasures



Susan Potts prepares to load her car after a successful day

EAST MONTLAKE PARK

Sue Blethen reports that the Seattle Parks Department will spread the last of the wood chips and gravel for the lake path this winter. Five new 'Venus' dogwoods were added thank to donors Diana Neely & Christine Davis. Also, last year's propagation efforts began to pay off in late November when many young plants took root and needed to be repotted in roomier quarters.



Sue Blethen welcomed the helping hands of Jenny Wyatt and Suzette de Turenne in repotting future Park plants



PHOTOGRAPHY COMMITTEE



Reminder: All are welcome to provide a favorite "Seasonal Photo" for exhibit at our General Meeting. Your 8x10 unmounted photos will be collected at the January 9 Hort Meeting.

Photography Annual Meeting: 10:00am Monday, January 23, 2012, at Noreen Frink's.

Also, please take time to look at *Focus*, GCA's photography publication, available at the GCA web site. Several of our members' photography efforts are displayed there as well as wonderful photos from GCA members across the U.S.

Sis Woodside, Photography Chair

CANCER LIFELINE AWARD

At the 2011 Cancer Lifeline Annual Community Gathering, the Seattle Garden Club was honored to receive their Outstanding Community Partner Award for enhancing the center with beautiful flower arrangements each week for many years.

The award is a glass plaque with the inscription "The Flowers are generously provided by the Seattle Garden Club" and it will be displayed with the arrangements in the center's entryway.

Kudos to Susan Pollock for organizing members in this weekly endeavor and thanks to everyone who takes part in this very worthy project.



Susan Pollock (left) accepts the award while Laurie Riley (right), looks on

"Survivor Tree"...In Memory

The 9/11 Memorial in New York City is open and quietly visited by hundreds with obvious reverence. We visited it on a sunny and crisp Veterans Day and were moved by the lovely and peaceful memorial sites of each tower, each with cascading water to deep depths and continually recirculating. Oak trees surrounded the north tower memorial, all the same height, all with about half of the brown leaves of fall blowing off. As we strolled to the exit we noticed a small group gathered around a larger tree with shiny bright green leaves. A guide was holding a folder with a photograph of a dessimated, gnarled, small trunk—the sole remnant of vegetation found after the collapses of each tower. We learned that the "...tree was originally planted at the trade center complex in the 1970's. It was discovered in the rubble weeks after the 9/11 attacks with snapped roots and a blackened trunk. It was taken to the Arthur Ross Nursery in Van Cortlandt Park in The Bronx and nursed back to health. It was 8 feet tall at the time of the attacks and now stands 35 feet tall. It was replanted at the site on 12/22/2010. The tree symbolizes the city and country's resilience." Named the "Survivor Tree", it is a Callery Pear.

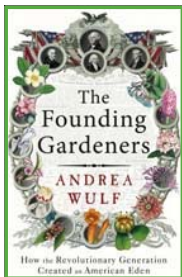


The trees we admired surrounding the Memorial are "...Swamp White Oaks with leaves that change colors ranging from amber to golden brown, and sometimes pink around the time of the 9/11 anniversary...Each tree was specifically selected from within a 500 mile radius of the World Trade Center site as well as locations in Pennsylvania and Washington, D.C. to symbolize those areas directly impacted on 9/11. The trees will serve as graceful and hopeful symbols of life and longevity."

Eleanor Nolan

SAVE THE DATE!

THE 2012 PAMELA GREEN HORTICULTURE SPEAKER



ANDREA WULF

Best Selling Author of

THE FOUNDING GARDENERS



A fascinating look at our founding fathers from the unique perspective of their lives as gardeners, plantsmen and farmers

Thursday, March 1, 2012

The Museum of History & Industry

7:00pm

\$20 General Admission/\$10 Students

WREATH MAKING AN SGC HOLIDAY TRADITION

SGC's Judy Thomas organized a Holiday Wreath Workshop again this year at Crooked Arbor Gardens in Woodinville. Garden Club members created a wonderful variety of natural wreaths. What a great way to get in the holiday spirit!



Judy Thomas, Laurie Riley & Judy Phillips display a work in progress.

HORTICULTURE STARTS

Legend has it that she received her name from her nursemaid who declared her to be "as purty as a lady bird." Attracted to the natural world, Lady Bird Johnson lived up to her name, adopting the preservation of wildflowers and native plants as her special cause.

Come to our next Hort meeting to learn more about this amazing woman's accomplishments. Provisional Marianne Kitchell will speak on Lady Bird Johnson's Legacy: Wildflowers and "Beautification." **Second Monday, January 9, 2012, Horticulture Meeting, UWBG/CUH. 9:30 Coffee, 10:00 Program.**

JANUARY HORT SHARE: WINTER INTEREST When much of the garden is taking a rest, how do you create beauty and interest during the cold, gray days? Share your tips for the winter garden at our next Hort meeting.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH In general, Sasanqua Camellias: a) have smaller flowers than their cousins C. japonica; b) are slower growing than C. japonica; c) are deeply rooted shrubs; d) bloom right after C. japonica.

Answer to December's question: All of the above. Poinsettias are in the Euphorbiaceae or spurge family; were "discovered" by Joel Poinsett, the first US Ambassador to Mexico; and were highly sought by the Aztecs during the 1300's and 1400's.

Jenny Wyatt, Hort Chair

EcoTips



Did you experience Catalog Overload during the holidays? Manage your unwanted mail by going to Catalog Choice.: <https://seattle.catalogchoice.org/dashboard> - Set up an account, and then type in the name of the catalogs, phone books, and unwanted mail that you no longer want to receive. It helps to have a label from the mail in question, although it is not necessary. Not only will you be helping to reduce paper waste, but your mailman will love you.

Get involved and instantly multiply your efforts by 400! Attend Environmental Lobby Day in Olympia on January 25. Go to the People for Puget Sound or Environmental Priorities Coalition websites for more information. This is great for anyone who has been or will be going to GCA's national lobbying event in DC, the NAL (National Affairs and Legislation)...as well as anyone who is interested in really making an environmental difference in Washington State (or who just has an interest in how our state government works!). <http://pugetsound.org/events/environmental-lobby-day-2012>

Juliet Romano

CENTENNIAL TREE UPDATE

On a chilly but dry November Saturday, SGC members Chris Davis, Laurie Riley and Jenny Wyatt joined volunteers from the Friends of Yesler Swamp to plant our remaining Western Red Cedars.

Led by Dr. Kern Erwin, Professor of Plant Ecology, our volunteer group "rolled back" the invasives and placed our 18 cedars in groves in order to attract the Barred Owl. Over time, our native cedars are expected to out compete the brush and grow up through the understory to become the dominant species.

This completes the planting of our 100 cedars to celebrate 100 years of The Garden Club of America. Thanks to everyone who participated in growing the seedlings!

Photos: Upper, SGC's Christine Davis (in bright blue) with Friends of Yesler Swamp; lower, Laurie Riley and Jenny Wyatt planting a Western Red Cedar



Looking Ahead...

Feb 2 BOARD MEETING - The Sunset Club
10:00am

Feb 9 PROVISIONALS @ CUH at 9:00am
HORT MEETING (FLOWER ARRANGING)
@ UWBG/CUH, 9:30am Coffee, 10am
Program - to be determined

Feb 16 GENERAL MEETING @ UWBG/CUH
9:30am Social; 10:00 Meeting - Cass
Turnbull speaks to us about Plant Amnesty
Guests welcome



DOES YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION INCLUDE USING E-MAIL?

If you currently receive this newsletter via U.S. Mail, and are ready for e-mail, please let me know. We are always happy to reduce waste and expenses, in keeping with GCA policies. Thank you to those who have already made the change!

Suzette de Turenne, Communications Chair



Seattle Garden Club

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